 <p><b>REQUEST For CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b></p> <p>Address to: <b>MAIL STOP RCE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450</b></p> <p>(Revised 04/2005)</p>	Application Number 09/516,252
	Filing Date March 1, 2000
	First Named Inventor: Sobalvarro et al.
	Art Unit: 3625
	Examiner Name: Yogesh C. Garg
	Confirmation No.: 3759
	Attorney Docket No. 043474/259279
<p><b>This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.</b></p>	

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114** Note: if the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavits(s)/Declarations(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS); of cites listed on PTO Form 1449
- iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is **required** by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)  
(\$790.00 large entity; \$395.00 small entity)
- ii. ☐ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F. R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_enclosed

Respectfully submitted,

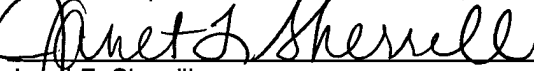


Chad L. Thorson  
Registration No. 55,675

**Customer No. 00826**  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000  
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV440849459US  
Date of Deposit **January 17, 2006**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Janet F. Sherrill